

**Energy** Tackling our nation's energy crisis will require a broad and comprehensive strategy.

I strongly support increased investments in renewable energy sources that lower prices for consumers, reduce our dependence on foreign oil and create new, innovative green jobs for Hoosiers.

Since coming to Congress, I have had an opportunity to vote on a wide range of progressive energy bills that seek to create jobs, increase domestic energy production and protect our pristine environment.

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### **CREATING "GREEN JOBS"**

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Over the last year, I had an opportunity to support both the Renewable Energy and Job Creation Act and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

These landmark pieces of legislation provided a boost to our nation's green jobs industry by establishing almost \$40 billion in tax incentives for the production of energy from solar, wind, biofuel, biomass, landfill gas and small irrigation sources.

Furthermore, the ARRA invests in a number of green energy projects, creating thousands of stable jobs in Indiana and across the country.

### **IMPROVING OUR ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION**

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In the 110<sup>th</sup>

Congress, I supported legislation that required states to update their energy codes for new buildings so that they are 30 percent more energy efficient by 2010, and 50 percent by 2020.

These updates require electric utilities to use renewable energy to generate 15% of their electricity or purchase renewable energy credits from others to meet this standard by 2020.

Furthermore, this legislation included incentives for lenders to provide lower interest loans for homeowners wishing to build, buy or remodel their homes with green technology.

Earlier this year, I supported landmark legislation that includes \$16 billion to make energy efficient retrofits on public housing units.

This bill also invests \$11 billion to develop a nationwide "smart" power grid, which will increase energy efficiency and lower electricity bills for millions of Americans.

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### **WEATHERIZING HOMES**

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In Indianapolis, as in numerous cities across the country, working Americans are having trouble covering their heating and cooling costs because their homes are energy inefficient.

For this reason, I was a strong supporter of provisions in the ARRA that allocated \$5 billion to weatherize American homes.

With these funds, homeowners across our city will soon be able to better protect themselves against inclement weather and the high cost of electricity and gas.

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### **HOLDING OIL COMPANIES ACCOUNTABLE**

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Last year, as Americans struggled to pay for gasoline that had shot above \$4.00 per gallon, oil companies were making record profits.

That's why I supported legislation that repealed tax subsidies and loopholes for the "Big Five" oil companies.

### **INCREASED DOMESTIC OIL PRODUCTION**

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In order to increase our nation's domestic oil production, I joined my Democratic colleagues in calling on oil and gas companies to responsibly drill on over 68 million acres of unused land for which they currently hold leases.

I believe that it is critical for this land to be used before Congress grants permission for these companies to expand their offshore or wilderness drilling efforts.